

are the proud parents of four sons and ten grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to acknowledge the craft, talent and lasting impressions of Art Gensler.

CONGRATULATING NATIONAL  
HISTORY DAY

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2012*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate National History Day, a year-long academic program focused on improving the teaching and learning of history for 6th to 12th grade students, for receiving a 2011 National Humanities Medal presented on February 13 at the White House by President Obama. Inaugurated in 1997, the National Humanities Medal honors individuals or groups whose work has deepened the nation's understanding of the humanities, broadened citizens' engagement, or helped preserve and expand Americans' access to important resources in the humanities. I am proud to recognize National History Day as the first K–12 education program that has received this honor "for sparking passion for history in students across our country."

National History Day is a program that can be integrated into any social studies or history classroom, as it helps teachers expand and enrich the existing curriculum. With schools spending more resources and time focusing on reading and math education, it is important that we also recognize and support programs that help to provide a well-rounded education that raises the bar for students and strengthens the instructional practice of teachers.

In every state and in hundreds of communities around the country, National History Day affiliates work with classroom teachers and students who choose historical topics related to a theme and conduct extensive primary and secondary research through libraries, archives, museums, oral history interviews and historic sites. In my own state of Maryland, the Maryland National History Day program is sponsored by the Maryland Humanities Council. Last year about 19,000 students from 158 different middle and high schools participated across the state at the local, state and national levels. The program is an outstanding example of outcome-based and performance-based learning.

I am also proud that each June students travel from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories to participate in the culminating four-day event held at the University of Maryland at College Park where professional historians and educators evaluate their projects. Attending the National History Day national contest where students are working in groups as well as individually to make history come alive is truly a unique experience. Each student is able to become an expert on a chosen topic while they further develop college- and career-ready skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving and oral and written communication. More than 5 million students have gone on to careers in business, law, medicine and countless other disciplines where they are putting into practice what they learned through National History Day.

As legislators, we are all interested in promoting increased student achievement and a deeper understanding of the impact of history on our everyday lives. For 30 years, the National History Day program has been transforming the way history is taught and learned in classrooms all over the country improving education every day.

THE ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, AND  
UNREGULATED FISHING EN-  
FORCEMENT ACT OF 2011

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2012*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation to strengthen enforcement mechanisms to stop illegal, unreported, and unregulated, IUU, fishing. Illegal fishing threatens the economic and social infrastructure of fishing communities around the world by decreasing opportunities for legitimate and conscientious fishermen. While the United States is recognized for its commitment to domestic fisheries conservation and as an international voice in science-based ocean conservation, the failure of other nations to adopt similar approaches has both economic and conservation implications for U.S. industry and management. Additional action is needed from Congress if we are to be successful in combating IUU fishing and the depletion of fish stocks worldwide. Last Congress, I sponsored similar legislation and it passed the House without opposition by voice vote. This year, I am glad to be joined by Congressman FRANK GUINTA from New Hampshire as a bipartisan original cosponsor.

Recent reports have documented that IUU fishing accounts for between 10 and 22 percent of the reported global fish catch, or \$9–24 billion in gross revenues each year (MRAG, 2009, Sumaila et al., 2006 and Agnew et al., 2009). This undermines the United States' conservation focused approach to fisheries management and the efforts of fishermen, and has implications for sustainable international fisheries that benefit the world's Marine ecosystems. Unsustainable fishing practices by foreign fishing fleets adversely affect stocks that migrate between the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and the high seas. This problem can be particularly acute in places like Guam, where the EEZ is vast, and where the United States Coast Guard, despite its best efforts, will never have sufficient resources to patrol all of our waters.

The "Illegal, Unreported, Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2011," which I introduced today, further enhances the enforcement authority of NOAA and the U.S. Coast Guard to regulate IOU fishing. This bill would amend the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act, HSDFMPA, and other international and regional fishery management organization, RFMO, agreements to incorporate the civil penalties, permit sanctions, criminal offenses, civil forfeitures and enforcement sections of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. It would strengthen enforcement authority of NOAA and the U.S. Coast Guard to inspect conveyances, facilities, and records involving the storage, processing, transport and trade of

fish and fish products, and to detain fish and fish products for up to five days while an investigation is ongoing.

In addition, this bill makes technical adjustments to allow NOAA to more effectively carry out current IUU identification mandates, including extending the duration of time for identification of violators from the preceding two years to the preceding three years. This bill broadens data sharing authority to enable NOAA to share information with foreign governments and clarifies that all information collected may be shared with international organizations and foreign governments for the purpose of conducting enforcement. These amendments promote the conservation and sound management of fish stocks internationally and in a manner consistent with the expectations placed on U.S. fishermen. This bill would establish an international cooperation and assistance program to provide funding and technical expertise to other nations to help them address IUU fishing. This bill, however, does not authorize new funding or appropriations.

Finally, this bill implements the Antigua Convention, an important international agreement that provides critical updates to the principles, functions, and processes of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, IATTC, to manage fisheries in the eastern Pacific Ocean. The Antigua Convention modernizes the IATTC and increases its capacity to combat IUU fishing and illegal imports of tuna product. Without implementing legislation, the U.S. does not have the authorities necessary to satisfy its commitments under the Antigua Convention, including addressing IUU in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

IUU fishermen are "free riders" who benefit unfairly from the sacrifices made by U.S. fishermen and others for the sake of proper fisheries conservation and management. I would like to thank Rep. GUINTA, Rep. FARR, Rep. FALCOMA, Rep. CHRISTENSEN, Rep. PIERLUISI and Rep. SABLAN for joining me as original cosponsors and I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to advance this important bill through the legislative process.

HONORING SAXTON T. WATSON

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2012*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Saxton T. Watson. Saxton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Saxton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Saxton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Saxton has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Saxton T. Watson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.